

DATE

Robert L. Hammonds
Hammond, Sills, Adkins, Guice, Noah & Perkins LLC
2431 S. Acadian Thruway, Suite 600
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70808

Re: **Louisiana Board of Ethics**
Docket No. 2021-270

Dear Mr. Hammonds,

The Louisiana Board of Ethics, at its meeting on June 4, 2021, considered your request, as General Counsel for the Lafayette Parish School Board, for the approval of a disqualification plan pursuant to Section 1112C of the Code of Governmental Ethics ("Code") regarding the continued employment of Allison Champagne and her mother, Kathy Aloisio.

FACTS PROVIDED

Kathy Aloisio has been employed with the Lafayette Parish School Board since 1984. On August 1, 2019, she was promoted to the position of Director of Middle and Secondary Schools.

Allison Champagne was hired by the Lafayette Parish School Board in 1997. She most recently was employed as Assistant Principal of L.J. Alleman Middle School. She was recently promoted by Superintendent Irma Trosclair to the position of Principal of Broussard Middle School. Ms. Champagne is the daughter of Kathy Aloisio. Ms. Aloisio had no involvement in the decision to assign Ms. Champagne to Broussard Middle School.

PROPOSED DISQUALIFICATION PLAN

The disqualification plan proposes that Janine LaFleur, Director of Elementary Schools, will handle all supervisory powers and/or authority over matters affecting the employment of Allison Champagne, including observations, evaluations, budget matters, parent complaints, and other matters arising at Broussard Middle School. The proposed disqualification plan has been approved by Lafayette Schools Superintendent Irma Trosclair.

LAW

La. R.S. 42:1112B(1) states that no public servant shall participate in a transaction involving the governmental entity in which, to his actual knowledge, any member of his immediate family has a substantial economic interest. La. R.S. 42:1102(21) defines “substantial economic interest” to mean an economic interest which is of greater benefit to the public servant or other person than to a general class or group of persons.

La. R.S. 42:1112C allows a disqualification plan to be developed in accordance with rules adopted by the Board to remove a public servant from participating in transactions that would otherwise present violations of Section 1112 of the Code of Governmental Ethics.

CONCLUSION

The Board concluded, and instructed me to inform you, that the proposed disqualification plan meets the requirements of Chapter 14 of Title 52 of the Louisiana Administrative Code – Rules of the Board of Ethics to prevent a potential violation of Section 1112B(1).

This advisory opinion is based solely on the facts as set forth herein. Changes to the facts as presented may result in a different application of the provisions of the Code of Governmental Ethics. Please note that the Board issues no opinion as to past conduct and that the Board’s expressed opinion is limited to an examination of the Code of Governmental Ethics, the Campaign Finance Disclosure Act, the Lobbyist Disclosure Acts, and the conflict of interest provisions in the gaming laws.

If you have any questions, please contact me at (800)842-6630 or (225)219-5600.

Sincerely,

LOUISIANA BOARD OF ETHICS

David M. Bordelon
For the Board